

REMARKS

Claims 10-12 remain in the application and have been amended hereby.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 10-12 under 35 USC 102(b), as being anticipated by Ushiki et al.

Claims 10 and 11 recite a method wherein an intermediate accounting process of decrementing accounting points stored in a first memory of a terminal device is performed in the terminal device.

Further, claim 11 recites that the final accounting processing is performed in the accounting center based on the accounting points remaining in the first memory of the terminal device and transmitted by the terminal device to the accounting center.

The Office Action at paragraph 5 points to the "typing sale data into the computer" step of Ushiki et al. as being equivalent to the recited step of storing accounting point information. Claims 10 and 11 have been amended in part to recite that the accounting point information is stored in a first memory of the terminal device and are submitted to recite structure that cannot be found in Ushiki et al.

Further, looking at Ushiki et al. we see that the accounting system, not the terminal, stores the accounting information and

calculates a fee for a communication between the subscriber terminals communicating with each other. Ushiki et al. is silent about any accounting processing being performed in the terminal device.

Claim 12 recites a method wherein the terminal device makes a request for purchasing accounting points from the accounting center. Ushiki et al. is silent about the terminal device being capable of purchasing accounting points.

Therefore, because the Ushiki et al.'s method is formed differently from that of the presently claimed invention, it is respectfully submitted that the positively recited method of amended claims 10-12 cannot be found in Ushiki et al. and that Ushiki et al. does not anticipate the present invention as recited in the amended claims.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 10-12 under 35 USC 103(a), as being unpatentable over "standard accounting practices".

It is respectfully submitted that the amendments made to the claims hereby place their recitation out of the scope of "standard accounting practices".

Further, it is respectfully submitted that the above-discussed features and relationships between the terminal device and the accounting system recited in amended claims 10-12 further place their recitation out of the scope of "standard accounting

practices".


Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended claims 10-12 are patentably distinct over "standard accounting practices".

The references cited as of interest and not relied upon have been reviewed and are not seen to show or suggest the present invention as recited in the amended claims.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

COOPER & DUNHAM LLP


Jay H. Maioli
Reg. No. 27, 213

JHM/PCF:tl

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE
IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 10-12 by rewriting same to read as follows.

--10. (Amended) A method for processing data distributed from an accounting center, comprising the steps of:

[a step of] storing accounting point information in a first memory built in a terminal device;

[a step of] storing information distributed from an external source in a second memory in the terminal device; and

[a step of] updating by decrementing the accounting point information stored in the first memory and updating attributes of the distributed information from an unavailable state to an available state when the distributed information is stored in the second memory.

--11. (Amended) A data processing method in an accounting system including an accounting center and a terminal device [capable of] for communicating with the accounting center, the method comprising the steps of:

[a step of] storing accounting point information in a first memory of the terminal device;

[a step of] storing information distributed from an external

source in a second memory of the terminal device;

[a step of] updating by decrementing the accounting point information stored in the first memory and updating attributes of the distributed information from an unavailable state to an available state when the distributed information is stored in the second memory; and

[a step of] carrying out an accounting processing [corresponding to] in the accounting center based on the accounting point information transmitted from the terminal device.

--12. (Amended) A data processing method in an accounting system including an accounting center and a terminal device capable of communicating with the accounting center, the method comprising the steps of:

[a step of] storing accounting point information in a first memory of the terminal device;

[a step of] storing information distributed from an external source in a second memory of the terminal device;

[a step of] updating by decrementing the accounting point information stored in the first memory and updating attributes of the distributed information from an unavailable state to an available state when the distributed information is stored in the second memory;

[a step of] making a request for purchasing the accounting point information to the accounting center and updating the accounting point information [on the basis of] stored in the first memory based on an accounting processing corresponding to the accounting point information [which is] executed at the accounting center; and

[a step of] carrying out an other accounting processing [to] in the accounting center based on the request for purchasing the accounting point information transmitted from the terminal device.--